

CUSTOMS & QUARANTINE AGENCY, GUAM

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Director's Office

Acting Director of Customs – George L. Charfauros, Jr. Chief of Customs – Vincent S.N. Perez

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Customs Trains DOE SAOs on Search and Seizure Methods and Maintaining Proper Custody of Evidence

BARRIGADA, GUAM – Yesterday, the Customs and Quarantine Agency's Logistics and Support Division's Training Section conducted an all-day training seminar with the Department of Education's School Attendance Officers (SAOs) focusing on proper search and seizure methods.

The DOE's Student Support Services Division requested for customs to assist their SAOs on proper techniques when conducting searches of individuals, backpacks, bags, purses, lockers and vehicles. In addition to their capacity as Special Deputy Marshals, SAOs are also tasked with conducting all searches on DOE property when the need arises, as well as providing training to other DOE personnel.

The morning training consisted of classroom instruction regarding proper methods in conducting search, seizure and maintaining proper custody while the afternoon consisted of hands on training wherein SAOs were broken down into teams of three and physically searched individuals, backpacks, bags, purses, lockers and vehicles.

One (1) customs supervisor, four (4) customs officers and eleven (11) SAOs participated in the 8-hour training.

For more information, please contact our Public Information Officer (PIO) Ms. Jessi Santos-Torres at (671) 475-6202 or via email at <u>Jessi Santos-Torres@cqa.guam.gov</u> or DOE's PIO Isa Baza at (671) 300-1677 or via email at <u>ijbbaza@gdoe.net</u>.